

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 06 2006

## OFFICIAL RESPONSE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. DEP0546

Inventor: Serhan et al.  
Serial No.: 09/822,126  
Filed: March 30, 2001  
Title: Intervertebral Connection System

Group Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: Manahan, Todd E.

---

### CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the USPTO at 571-273-8300 on July 6, 2006.

Amy Schick (signature)  
Amy Schick

July 6, 2006 (date)

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

---

NO. OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 27

Thomas M. DiMauro  
Patent Attorney  
Johnson & Johnson Law Department

Phone #: 508-880-8401  
FAX #: 508-828-3789

DePuy Spine Inc.  
325 Paramount Drive  
Raynham, Mass. 02767-0350

Docket No. DEP-0546

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Serhan et al.  
Serial No.: 09/822,126  
Filed: March 30, 2001  
Title: Intervertebral Connection System

Group Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: Manahan, Todd E.

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 06 2006

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 6, 2006.

Amy Schick (signature)  
Amy Schick

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## NOTICE OF APPEAL

Applicant(s) hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner dated January 9, 2006 finally rejecting Claims 1,5-12,30,36-39,67-72 and 81 of the above-identified application.

The item(s) checked below are appropriate:

1. ☐ An extension of time to respond to the final rejection was granted on month(s).
2. ☐ A Petition For Extension Of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 is attached hereto in triplicate.
3. X A timely response to the final rejection has been filed.
4. ☒ Fee \$500.00: for filing of Notice of Appeal  
☐ Not required (fee paid in prior appeal)  
☒ Charge to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-0546/TMD. Two additional copies of this Notice are enclosed herewith.  
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment in connection herewith to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-0546/TMD.

Respectfully submitted,

07/07/2006 MGBREM1 00000054 100750 09822126

01 FC:1401 500.00 DA

One Johnson & Johnson Plaza  
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003  
(508) 880-8401  
Date: July 5, 2006

Thomas M. DiMauro 7-6 06  
Thomas M. DiMauro  
Reg. No. 35,490  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Docket No. DEP-0546

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Serhan et al. Group Art Unit: 3732  
Serial No.: 09/822,126 Examiner: Manahan, Todd E.  
Filed: March 30, 2001  
Title: Intervertebral Connection System

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
JUL 06 2006

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 6, 2006.

Amy Schick (signature)  
Amy Schick

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## NOTICE OF APPEAL

Applicant(s) hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner dated January 9, 2006 finally rejecting Claims 1,5-12,30,36-39,67-72 and 81 of the above-identified application.

The item(s) checked below are appropriate:

1. ☐ An extension of time to respond to the final rejection was granted on \_\_\_\_\_ for month(s).
2. ☐ A Petition For Extension Of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 is attached hereto in triplicate.
3. X A timely response to the final rejection has been filed.
4. ☒ Fee \$500.00: for filing of Notice of Appeal  
☐ Not required (fee paid in prior appeal)  
☒ Charge to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-0546/TMD. Two additional copies of this Notice are enclosed herewith.  
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment in connection herewith to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-0546/TMD.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. DiMauro 7-6-06  
Thomas M. DiMauro  
Reg. No. 35,490  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

One Johnson & Johnson Plaza  
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003  
(508) 880-8401  
Date: July 5, 2006